

Project Contacts

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For additional information and project updates, please visit the project web site at:  
[www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/I5/SR501Interchange](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/I5/SR501Interchange)



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OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday,  
April 11  
4:30-7 p.m.  
Union Ridge  
Elementary School  
Gymnasium  
330 North Fifth Avenue

This first of three open houses will provide information and gather community feedback. You will have opportunities to:

- learn about the project
- meet with members of the project team
- provide comments and feedback on the project
- learn about other WSDOT projects

Newsletters such as this will also keep our community informed throughout the project.

New Interchange Will Deliver Needed Improvements

As north Clark County has grown, traffic on the existing transportation network is at maximum capacity, especially during peak travel hours. The I-5/SR 501 Ridgefield interchange and surrounding local streets—important parts of our community’s transportation network—will be redesigned to help address this issue. The current interchange, also known as the Pioneer Street interchange, was built in 1964. The new interchange will replace the existing one and better serve the needs of both local and regional traffic for years to come.



Northbound onramp to I-5

The improvements on SR 501 include two travel lanes in each direction, new turn lanes, improvements to the SR 501/56th Place and Pioneer Street/65th Avenue intersections, bike lanes, and sidewalks. Not only will this project improve mobility and access, it will also improve safety for all forms of traffic—vehicles, bicyclists, and pedestrians. To minimize the impact on access to I-5 during construction, the new interchange alignment will be constructed south of the existing interchange.

The new interchange will bring benefits beyond improved mobility and safety to the Ridgefield area, which is forecasted by the City of Ridgefield to be the region’s largest future industrial hub. An estimated 16,000 new family-wage jobs will be located in the area by 2025. The new interchange will assist industrial development and growth while helping area businesses, residents, and visitors better connect with the rest of the region.

The new interchange will replace the existing one and better serve the needs of both local and regional traffic for years to come.

Project partners are the City of Ridgefield (with support from the Port of Ridgefield) and the Washington State Department of Transportation. Together, these agencies will oversee design, environmental documentation and permitting, public involvement, right-of-way acquisition, and construction.

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# Project Background

Initially, the I-5/SR 501 interchange was analyzed as part of the I-5/I-205 North Corridor Route Development Plan (RDP), which began in 2001. The RDP evaluated what was known at the time about traffic needs around the interchange. The significant public involvement that was



New signals on westbound overpass

part of the RDP included stakeholder interviews, a citizen/business advisory committee, mailings to stakeholders, six open houses, a newspaper insert, press releases, and newspaper advertisements.

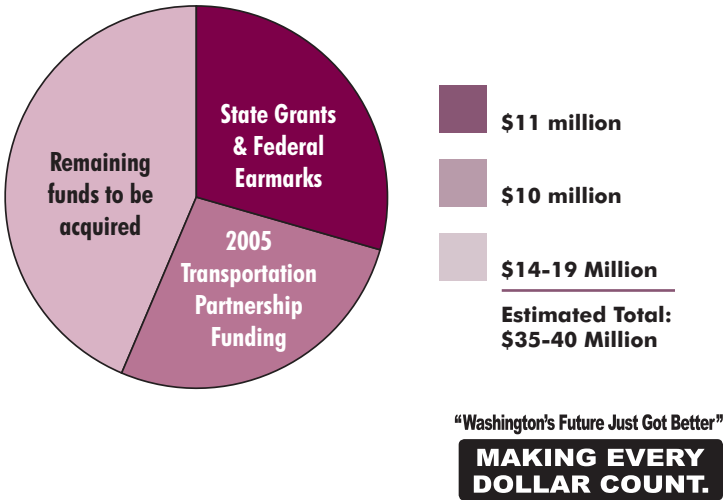
Although the RDP recommended the future reconstruction of the I-5/SR 501 interchange, other projects included in the RDP received higher funding priority. An interim solution to address safety and mobility needs in the short-term was developed and implemented in 2005.

These improvements installed two traffic signals at the existing interchange on and off ramps; right turn lanes to both I-5 off ramps and the southbound on ramp; a new left turn lane from SR 501 westbound to 56th Place; and median curbs on SR 501 east and west of I-5.

# Funding the Interchange

Total cost of the interchange is estimated at \$35-40 million. The environmental documentation and permitting, preliminary design, and right-of-way acquisition processes have already started with \$11 million in funding from state grants and federal earmarks secured by the City, Port of Ridgefield, and the state legislature.

The state’s 2005 Transportation Partnership Funding Package will contribute \$10 million to help fund construction. Additional money is still needed to complete construction. The project partners will continue to seek the remaining funding for construction through additional federal, state, City, and public/private partnership opportunities.



# Project Timeline

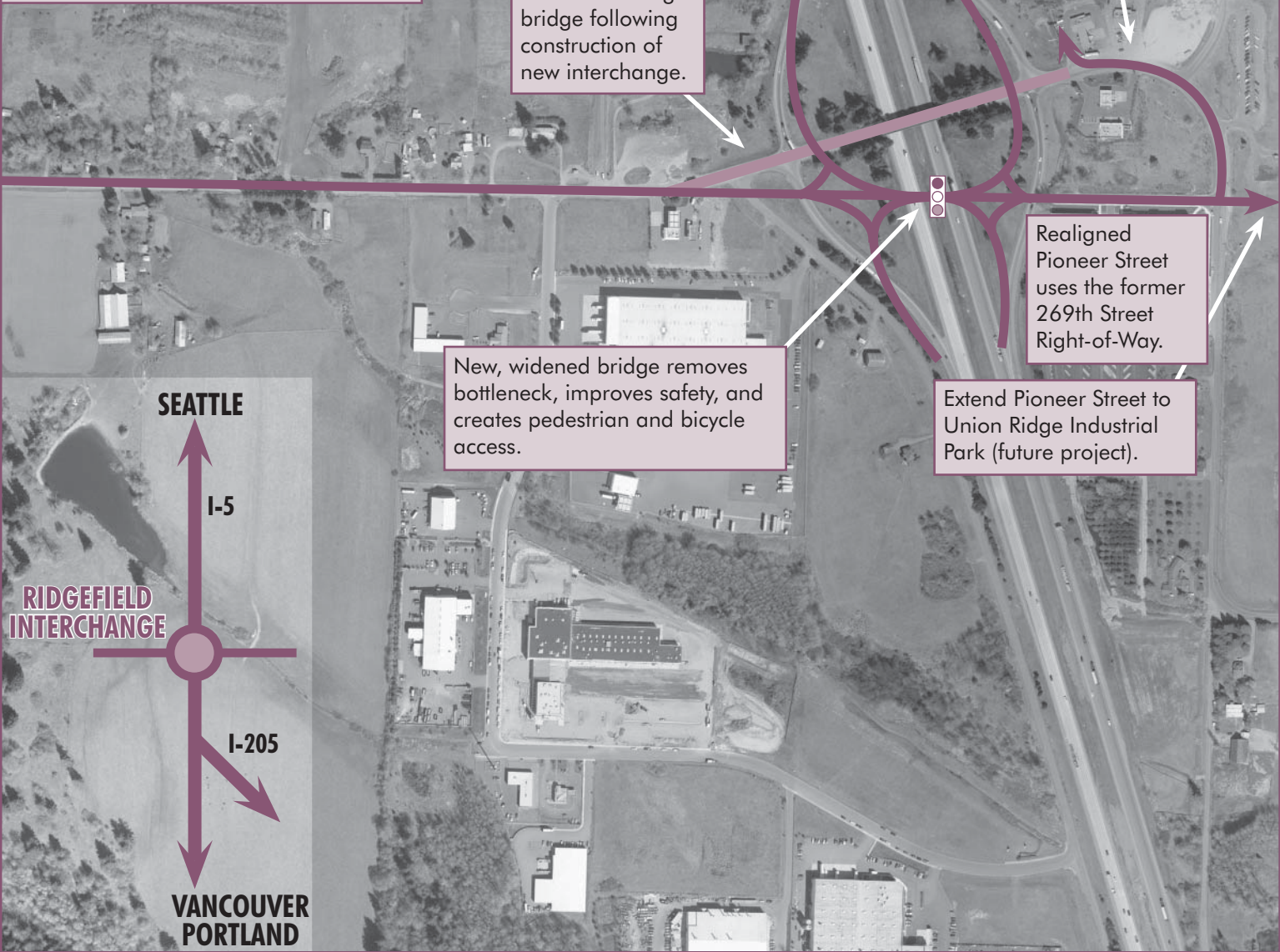
Environmental documentation and permitting and preliminary design of the interchange are just getting underway. Right-of-way purchases will begin spring 2007. An estimated completion of the design phase is slated for early 2008. Once full funding has been secured, the project can go out for bid. Construction of the new interchange will take approximately two and a half years to complete.

# Mapping the Project

The interchange will be improved to a Single-Point Urban Interchange, which allows for more efficient traffic flow.

Bike lanes and sidewalks will connect east and west.

The new interchange will be aligned to the south of the existing interchange to allow construction phasing and uninterrupted access to I-5.



Conceptual drawing for illustrative purposes only. Not to scale.

2006				2007				2008	
Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Start Preliminary Design</li><li>Start Environmental Documentation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>April 11 - Public Open House #1</li><li>Newsletter #1</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Preliminary Design Continued</li><li>Environmental Documentation Continued</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Start Right-of-Way Planning</li><li>Start Environmental Permitting</li><li>Start Final Design</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Open House &amp; Newsletter #2</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Start Right-of-Way Acquisition</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Right-of-Way Acquisition Continued</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Open House &amp; Newsletter #3</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Complete Final Design</li><li>Bid Construction*</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Start Construction*</li></ul>

\*Tentative. Construction contingent on funding.